



for the widowed
and their future

Volume 20 Issue 4

Make new friends but keep the old, one is silver and the other gold.



This time honored advice has become our adopted "LIFE SLOGAN"
Make good use of this advice each and every day.

1116 West Main Street
Leesburg, FL 34748 (352) 787-0403

April, May, June 2017

20th Anniversary Issue



Wow! LIFE begins its 20th year. Spring is in the air. Baseball is being played. Everything is green and blooming. Two decades of Life. I only wish Life founder David Heydt could be here to witness this amazing accomplishment. Life began as LIFT April 1997. Beyers Funeral Home began its sponsorship of Life January 2006 and I became the director October 2010. Wow, doesn't time fly.

Let's look back for a few moments. We've had a wonderful year with more great trips, luncheons, door prizes and entertainment. We have begun our fourth year of U-Hikes and it's been a popular addition with many repeat hikers. Groups range in size from six to 26. My credo is "We go as fast as our slowest hiker." So don't be afraid to give one a try during our 20th anniversary year. Remember, we always end with a very nice lunch. Last year our hiking season ended in April. This year I'm going to give May a try and if it's too hot, we just walk slowly and try to stay in the shade.

Looking ahead, we will have our Second Annual Run for Your Life at the Venetian Garden Raceway in August. Our inaugural event last year was a great success but we will be making some changes so it will be even more fun. We are open to trying new things so if you have any suggestions please let me know. I've been able to secure new talent for our entertainment at the recommendations of Life members so don't be shy if you have anyone or group in mind.

We'll continue to have the same popular trips. Barbara with Life's A Trip Tours continues looking for new venues and remembers our popular favorites. Her new bus has also been a huge hit. And Javier is the best tour bus driver in the state, maybe the world. In addition to our U-Hikes my goal is to offer at least one U-Drive Trip each quarter, and maybe more.

Blessings and Peace,

Rick Reed

Nancy, my beloved wife of 41 years, passed away on Feb. 26th. I want to express my love and appreciation for all who reached out with cards, calls, hugs, emails and attendance at Nancy's Celebration of Life. It truly was a celebration and my girls and I were deeply touched by the wonderful things people wrote and said about Nancy. No doubt about it, she was loved and admired. And I married up.

Once again, thank you from the bottom of my heart.



TRIPS

**Monday, April 17 -- Life's a Trip -- \$84.00
JOHN'S PASS VILLAGE**

Before lunch, we will have free time to shop at John's Pass Village. With over 100 merchants, the village is a unique shopping experience. We will then enjoy lunch at Bubba Gump Shrimp Co. Lunch choices are as follows: Southern Charmed Fried Shrimp with fries; All- American Cheeseburger with fries; Bubba's Accidental Chicken (broiled chicken over a bed of jasmine rice topped with a lemon butter sauce and Roma tomatoes); Fish and Chips with fries; or Chicken or Shrimp Caesar Salad. Your lunch will also include chef's choice of dessert and soda, coffee or tea.

Please make your lunch selection at the time of your reservation.

Activity level = MODERATE

1st pick up: Lowe's in Mount Dora at 8:00 a.m. Please park close to 441 away from Bldg.

2nd pick up: Leesburg (corner of Main and Lee, behind law office) at 8:30 a.m.

Return around 5:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

**Saturday, May 20 -- Life's a Trip -- \$75.00
GARDEN THEATRE**

Visit the Garden Theatre and its Mediterranean Revival style venue, and see "Into the Woods." Follow the baker and his wife as they journey into the woods striving to lift a witch's curse. Along the way they encounter other fairy tale characters, each of whom possesses something necessary to reverse the curse. Winner of the 1988 Tony Awards for Best Original Score and Best Book of a musical, Into the Woods explores the consequences of wishes and the responsibility that comes with getting what you want. Prior to the show, enjoy a delicious lunch at Winter Garden Pizza Company. Lunch choices are as follows: blackened shrimp Caesar salad with cup of soup; chicken alfredo with broccoli and side salad; or Italian grilled chicken pita sandwich with French fries and cup of soup. Plus, soft drink, coffee or tea and chef 's choice for dessert. Please make lunch selection at time of reservation.

Activity level = MODERATE - Please bring your walker or cane if needed.

1st pick up: Leesburg (corner of Main and Lee, behind law office) at 10:30 a.m.

2nd pick up: Lowe's in Mount Dora at 9:00 a.m.

Return around 5:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

To make day trip reservations, please contact Rick Reed at 352-787-0403.

For overnight trips call Barbara at Life's a Trip Tours at 407-855-9732.

Payment is due at time of reservation. **Please make checks payable to Life's a Trip Tours** and mail to. **Life's a Trip Tours • PO Box 590066 • Orlando, FL 32859-0066**
Deadline for cancellation with a refund is 30 days prior to the trip.

**Wednesday, June 14 -- Life's a Trip -- \$82.00
ST. JOHNS RIVERSHIP CRUISE**

Step aboard the Barbara-Lee, an authentic paddle-wheeler, just like the ships that sailed the St. Johns River more than 100 years ago. Cruise this historic river, enjoy exceptional dining and entertainment, while enjoying Florida's natural splendor.

The cruise is approximately three hours long and begins with an hors de oeuvre table of assorted fruits, cheeses, crackers and sticky buns followed by a gourmet lunch prepared fresh on board by an award winning chef. Meal includes coffee, hot tea or iced tea and cheesecake for dessert. Menu selection will be done shortly after everyone is on board and seated.

Activity level = LOW

1st pick up: Leesburg (corner of Main and Lee, behind law office) at 9:00 a.m. bus will arrive 15 minutes prior)

2nd pick up: Lowe's in Mount Dora at 9:45 a.m.

Return around 3:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.

**OVERNIGHT TRIP
Scenic New England Sept. 25-Oct. 6, 2017.**

Price is \$2,529 per person for double occupancy /\$3,399 for single occupancy

Visit Life's a Trip Tours on the web at

www.lifes-a-triptours.com.

Life's a Trip Tours • PO Box 590066 • Orlando, FL 32859-0066 • Tel 407-855-9732

U-DRIVE TRIPS

May 13th – Saturday – 2 p.m. -- U-DRIVE - \$15.00

CABARET

-Bay Street Theatre - Eustis

The scene is a night club in Berlin as the 1920s are drawing to a close. The Master of Ceremonies welcomes the audience to the show and assures them, that whatever their troubles, they will forget them at the Cabaret. Made popular with the 1972 Academy Award winning movie starring Liza Minnelli and Joel Gray. Tickets will be given out during lunch.

Lunch will be off the menu at Oakwood Smokehouse Restaurant around 11:45 a.m. Oakwood is located at 2911 David Walker Drive, Eustis.

ONLY 30 TICKETS HAVE BEEN RESERVED FOR THIS SHOW SO GET YOUR RSVP AND PAYMENT IN TODAY.

*Make checks for U-Drive trips out to LIFE.
Please contact Rick @ 352-787-0403 or email him at ricoh007@aol.com. Mail U-Drive checks to LIFE, 1116 W. Main Street, Leesburg, FL 34748.*

LUNCHEONS

*** Luncheons are \$10-\$11***

Entertainment subject to change

Please call 787-0403 to RSVP or for more information.

APRIL

20th ANNIVERSARY LUNCHEON - Combined

April 13 – Thursday – 11:30 a.m. - \$10

Leesburg Community Center - 109 East Dixie Ave., Leesburg

Come and celebrate Life's 20th anniversary with us at the Leesburg Community Center in beautiful Venetian Gardens. After a delicious buffet-style Anniversary lunch, the talented Leesburg High School Swing Band will entertain us with Big Band sounds sure to delight.

MAY

May 11 – Thursday – 11:30 a.m. - \$10

Leesburg Community Center - 109 East Dixie Ave., Leesburg

After a fine buffet-style meal we will be entertained in part by man's best friend. Joanne Rittenhouse, one of many volunteers with PAWS Therapy Dogs will bring a special guest or two and she will tell us about the wonderful work PAWS does and how you can get involved.

May 17 – Wednesday – 11:30 a.m. - \$11

LAKE TECH - 2001 Kurt Street, Eustis

(About a mile north of US Highway 441 on Kurt Street)

Our lunch, prepared by Lake Tech's excellent Culinary Arts Program, is sure to please. But you'll want to stick around for our program. We will be entertained in part by man's best friend. Joanne Rittenhouse, one of many volunteers with PAWS Therapy Dogs will bring a special guest or two and she will tell us about the wonderful work PAWS does and how you can get involved. So be ready for a fun time.

JUNE

June 8 – Thursday – 11:30 a.m. - \$10

Leesburg Community Center - 109 East Dixie Ave., Leesburg

After a delicious buffet-style lunch, enjoy our program. Artist Bobby Fowler will entertain with songs and humor.

June 21 – Wednesday – 11:30 a.m. - \$11

Osprey Lodge - 1761 Nightingale Lane in Tavares

(In back of medical plaza across US Highway 441 from Waterman Hospital)

After a fine lunch prepared by the chefs of Osprey Lodge we will be entertained by the Royal Tappers, a tapdancing group from Royal Harbor.

RSVP for all luncheons by calling 787-0403.

U-HIKES

April 20 – Thursday – 10 a.m. – FREE
Hiking Palatlahaha Environmental and
Agricultural Reserve Park - Leesburg

For the more active LIFER, we continue our LIFE hikes. This month we tackle the Dr. S.J. (Joe) Stephany Memorial River Trail at the Palatlahaha Environmental and Agricultural Reserve Park (PEAR) south of Leesburg. This natural footpath parallels the Palatlahaha River and should be a nice shady place to hike if memory serves me. It's obvious from the height of the bluffs this was once a significant river. But today it's lower—not just because of our drought, but because of development along its route dropping the level of the Florida aquifer. There are many well-interpreted native plants along the 3 mile round-trip. But don't worry, we will only walk as fast and as far at a comfortable pace set by the slowest hiker. We will figure a halfway point and turn back. It is basically level but natural terrain. Bring water and bug spray.

Directions: From US Highway 27: From downtown Leesburg, driving south on US 27 crossing SR 48. About .8 of a mile after the SR 48 intersection turn right and into the park. Park by the tennis courts where we will meet as group to begin our hike. If you come to the Paw Park, playground, and fitness area you need to turn back to the tennis courts to park.

If you are headed north on US 27 you will pass another entrance into the park at University Drive. Go past that to the northern entrance.

Lunch at Beef O'Brady's 27405 US-27, Leesburg, (352) 728-3233 (on the participant).

May 18 – Thursday – 10 a.m. – FREE
HIKING HICKORY POINT PARK – TAVARES

Opening its doors in February 1992, this 68-acre multi-use facility presents a unique recreational waterfront park experience. The facility is located on SR 19 adjacent to Little Lake Harris. Popular activities for park guests of all ages include a nature boardwalk & trail, outdoor picnic areas with barbecue grills, a playground, horseshoe pits, sand volleyball court, swimming beach, and open-field play areas. With a fishing pier and 12 boat ramps, the facility is open 24 hours a day for fishing and boating access. But we will limit ourselves to the nature boardwalk and trail and along the waterfront as time allows.

Directions: From US Highway 441 head south on State Road 19 to Little Lake Harris. If you reach the Howey Bridge you have gone too far. Park in the parking area in front of the pavilion.

LUNCH at: JB Boondock's Bar & Grill, 704 S. Lakeshore Blvd. 324-3600.

*To make a reservation please contact Rick @
352-787-0403 or email him at ricoh007@aol.com.*



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1116 West Main Street

Leesburg, FL 34748

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Thoughts For Your Day

- "Only people who are capable of loving strongly can also suffer great sorrow, but this same necessity of loving serves to counteract their grief and heals them."

-Leo Tolstoy

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LIFE Mission Statement

"The goal of the LIFE Program is to create an environment of comfort and support for those who have experienced the loss of a spouse. By helping members redirect their grief to more positive avenues, the program instills a sense of self-confidence and purpose to those who may otherwise be feeling lost and alone. LIFE provides opportunities for enhancing the quality of life by encouraging members to learn, share, and reach out to one another."

Let us remember ...

the businesses that support LIFE:

Claudia's Pearl Florist in Mount Dora, 735-0012
Miss Daisy Flower & Gifts in Leesburg 787-6806
Beyers Funeral Homes in Lake and Sumter Counties

Spiritual Gem

There is a time for everything,
and a season for every activity under the heavens:
a time to be born and a time to die,
a time to plant and a time to uproot,
a time to kill and a time to heal,
a time to tear down and a time to build,
a time to weep and a time to laugh,
a time to mourn and a time to dance,
a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,
a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,
a time to search and a time to give up,
a time to keep and a time to throw away,
a time to tear and a time to mend,
a time to be silent and a time to speak,
a time to love and a time to hate,
a time for war and a time for peace.

— Solomon

GRACIOUSLY FUNDED BY BEYERS FUNERAL HOME AND CREMATORY

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